

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Massachusetts Implementation Tasks for Calendar Year 2010

1st Quarter (January-March 31)

Insurance Coverage Expansions

- Medicaid drug rebate percentage increase and expansion to drugs through managed care (§2501) (MassHealth)
- Medicaid coverage of freestanding birthing center services (§ 2301) (MassHealth, DPH, DHCFP); Additional services covered for children in hospice (§2302) (MassHealth);

Insurance Reforms

- Limitation on pay for health insurance providers, require Blue Cross Blue Shield orgs to have medical loss ratio of 85% or greater (§9014, 9016) (DOI)

Transparency/Fraud and Abuse

- Enhanced Medicare/Medicaid integrity provisions (§6402, §6403, §6407, §6504, §6506 §7101, §7102) (MassHealth)

Revenue & Taxes

- Small business tax credit eligibility begins (§1421)(DHCFP, HED, Connector, DOR)

Medicare Reform

- Medicare beneficiaries who reach donut hole eligible for \$250 rebate (§3315, §3301) (ELD)

Grants/Demonstrations

- Funding opportunity for states to create state office of consumer assistance/provide health insurance consumer information (§1002) (DOI, DPH, AG, Connector)

2nd Quarter (April-June 30)

Insurance Coverage Expansions

- State option to move waiver population up to 133% FPL to State Plan (§2001,§10201) (MassHealth, Connector)
- State option to provide more types of Home and Community Based Services through a State Plan Amendment (§2402) (MassHealth, Disability Policy, ELD)
- Temporary federal high risk pool established (§1101) (Connector, DHCFP, MassHealth, DOI)
- Temporary reinsurance program for employers for retiree benefits established (§1102) (GIC, Connector, DOI, HED, LWD)
- Federal webportal to permit consumers to identify affordable coverage options established (§1103) (Connector, MassHealth, DOI)

Grants/Demonstrations

- Extension of the Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration and changes to its eligibility rules. (§2403) (MassHealth, Disability Policy, ELD)
- Support for medication management services by local health providers (§3503)

Grants/Demonstrations

- Funding opportunity for states to establish or improve capability to review and approve carrier premium increases (§1003)(DOI, Connector)

3rd Quarter (July-September 30th)

Insurance Reforms:

- Prohibition against setting lifetime limits on benefits (§2711) (DOI, Connector, DHCFP, GIC); Prohibition on practicing rescission (§2712) (DOI); Elimination of co-pays for certain preventive services begins (§2713) (DOI, Connector, DPH, GIC); Young adults to age 26 may stay on parents plan as dependents (§2714) (DOI, Connector, GIC); requires plans to disclose information such as claims, payment policies and rating practices (§2715A) (DOI, Connector, GIC); Employers prohibited from limiting eligibility for coverage to highly compensated individuals (§2716) (DOI); No Pre-Existing Condition exclusion for children in the individual market (§10103) (DOI)

3rd Quarter continued

- Insurance plans begin reporting medical loss ratios for plan years starting on or after 9/23 (§2718) (DOI, DPH)
- Insurance plans to implement an effective internal appeals process of coverage determinations and claims and comply with any applicable State external review process (§2719) (DOI, DPH)

Transparency/Fraud and Abuse

- Provider screening and other fraud and abuse prevention requirements under Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP (§6401) (MassHealth)
- Develop interoperable standards for using HIT to enroll individuals in public programs (§1561)(MeHI, DOI, Connector, MH)

Taxes and Revenue

- Tanning tax begins (§10907) (HED)

Grants/Demonstrations

- Demonstration around provision of comprehensive health care services to the uninsured at reduced fees. (§10504) (MassHealth)
- Maternal infant and early childhood visitation program (§2951)(DPH)

4th Quarter (October-December 31)

Insurance Coverage Expansions

- Certify budget deficit for purposes of Maintenance of Effort exception (§2001)(MassHealth, Connector)

Efficiency/Quality

- Transition plan for kids aging out of foster care required to provide oppty to discuss medical power of attorney prior to emancipation from foster care. (§2955) (DCF)
- Expansion of Recovery Audit Contractors program to identify underpayments and overpayments and to recoup overpayments made for services provided under State Medicaid plans and waivers. (§6411)(MassHealth)

Grants/Demonstrations

- Funding opportunity for infrastructure to expand access to care for building/renovating certain health care facilities (§10502)

2010 – no specific date

Innovation

- FDA granted authority to approve generic versions of biologics and give mfg's 12 years exclusive use (§7002)(HED, MassHealth)
- Additional requirements for charitable hospitals – must do community needs assessments every 3 years (§9007)(AG)

Agency Key:

AG=Attorney General

Connector=Commonwealth Connector Health Insurance Authority

DCF=Department of Children and Families

DHCFP= Division of Health Care Finance & Policy

DOI=Division of Insurance

DPH = Department of Public Health

ELD=Executive Office of Elder Affairs

GIC=Group Insurance Commission

HED=Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development

LWD=Executive Office of Labor & Workforce Development

MassHealth=Massachusetts Medicaid Program

